

Approved Minutes
Idaho Council for Technology in Learning

December 17, 2003
Doubletree Hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise ID 83709
North Star Conference Room

ICTL Members
Senator Melvin Richardson, ICTL Chair

Allen Andersen
Ann Joslin
Mack Shirley
Milford Terrell (not present)
Gary Stivers (nor present)

Jacklyn Mosman
Bill Leaf
Karen Vauk
Bert Marley (not present)

Superintendent Marilyn Howard
Vern Newby
Elizabeth Criner (not present)
Robert Kustra (not present)

HEITC
**Higher Education Information
Technology Committee**

Ann Joslin, HEITC Chair
Randy Bow
Christine Brady (not present)
Terry Lay (not present)
David O'Neill (not present)
Monti Pittman
Carmen Rahm (not present)
Nancy Szofran
Gens Johnson (not present)

PEITC
**Public Education Information
Technology Committee**

Bill Leaf, PEITC Chair
Pete Black (not present)
Vickie Chandler (not present)
Carolyn Mauer
Karen Ganske (not present)
Christopher Gibson (not present)
Deb McGrath
Ray Mikelson (not present)
Jacklyn Mosman

BOTS
Bureau of Technology

Rich Mincer, Bur. Chief
Dan Hawkins
Dawn Wilson
Jenny Jacob
Lynne Zastre

IETA
**Idaho Educational
Technology Association**

Kendall Gjevre
Bob England

Deans
Jeanne Christiansen
Joyce Lynn Garrett (not present)
Larry Harris (not present)

Shane Schamber
Darin Anderson
David Breithraup
Donna Viklli
Gary Graves
Cheryl Bishop

Guests
Darrell Muck
Shelly Christianson
Jean Bnegfort
Warren Brab
Jeff Young
Mary Stivos

Burt Lundak
Don Holznagel
Corey Simpson
Seymour Haflling
Wayne Rush

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Opening Remarks and Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am. Senator Richardson announced that due to other meetings being held elsewhere several of the committee members and attendees would be late. Senator Richardson introduced the new members to ICTL committee and asked each of them for a short background. New members are Jacklyn Mosman a public school teacher for the Public Education Information Technology Committee, Mack Shirley, Republican representative, District 34. Other new members include, Milford Terrell and Robert Kustra who were not present.

MOTION #1: Rep. Allen Andersen moved to accept the May 29, 2003 ICTL meeting minutes. Vern Newby seconded the motion. Vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Dawn Wilson introduced the new staff members for Bureau of Technology Services, Lynne Zastre, Jenny Jacob and Dan Hawkins

J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation Report (ISIMS)

Wayne Rush, Program Officer for the Foundation, presented information regarding Idaho Student Information Management System (ISIMS):

ISIMS:

Wayne started with saying the project is to provide the most efficient and effective student information management and reporting system possible for the State of Idaho. This will be the first State in the Nation to create a centralized system, required by all districts that actually have three major components built it.

Wayne stated the project is considered a partnership and 35 million dollars has been funded for the project over the next four to five years. At some point in time the project will be turned over to the State of Idaho. As of April 15th, 2003, a bill was signed by the Governor, which established the ISIMS project. Which included all agencies uses this system when up and running and provides for an ongoing funding mechanism through the project.

ISIMS is all about improving student achievement and if you use a system that is efficient and effective and provides information and resources and tools that teachers can improve student achievement.

Senator Richardson stated that this project was precipitated by the No Child Left Behind program. Wayne Rush agreed.

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Wayne Rush explained the ISIMS scope. The project is designed and built to put all these applications together. To implement State and local pilot districts. Will provide professional and quality development. This will be targeted at improving teaching and learning. Provide operations support, production operations, application user support, upgrades and enhancements and then provide project support.

Wayne explained the ISIMS solution. True web-based, student information, curriculum management and data analytic system that collects, tracks reports, provides tools and resources for all aspects of K-12 education. The contracts with the companies involved are statewide contracts. They cover both public and private schools within the State. The tools will also be available to the Universities. This is an internet-based solution. The pilot districts will be running out of the center of Viber Pipe. Once it's statewide it will go out for bid.

Wayne explained this moves to an enterprise solution. This is different when you think of running data systems. Many of the systems running now are based around the schools themselves. This system is web-based and therefore includes all schools. There will be a data warehouse where information will be stored.

Wayne discussed the products that will be required to run the system. Explained all modules being used and what their functions are.

Wayne discussed the curriculum management part of ISIMS. Curriculum management is based around Idaho Achievement Standards. ISIMS wants resources on books, curriculum and materials tied to the standards. Assessments monitoring student progress, grade books, reports and communications. This will take a look at all student standards.

Wayne discusses where ISIMS was in the project. ISIMS is running a lot parallel processes, still in solution design and integration and is building a prototype right now. ISIMS will go into production in the summer of 2004 and be able to convert 20% of the districts by then and finish up three years from now.

Wayne discussed some of the cost impacts. There needs to be good internet connectivity, will also need modern computers for teachers and staff and finally will have to maintain the networks within the buildings.

Wayne reminded everyone there is an ISIMS office in the MK Plaza.

Senator Richardson stated how he felt it was a great program and can see the advantage of ISIMS.

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Technology in Idaho K-12 Schools

Dan Hawkins gave a presentation on technology in K-12 school systems.

Dan commented on the Infrastructure, workstations, educational applications, IT support, budget worksheets and budget narratives.

Dan showed the technology funding for the State and the distribution of funds. Total district funding came to \$34,321,563.

Dan also discussed the problem with upgrading or updating district systems. Explaining this is hard because of the outdated machines and servers. He did say however, that the Internet connectivity was good, but there are still some schools using the 56K dialups.

Bill Leaf asked if the state is prepared for the ISIMS project. Dan stated the school districts should be set for the ISIMS project. The only trouble may be in reconstructing the age of the machines being used and having the hardware to support windows XP. Dan also proposed that the Tech Coordinators need to come up with and adopt technology standards for platforms. That will make it easier in the future to not get into the position the districts are in now.

Technology Evaluation Report

Seymour Hanfling, Gary Graves and Don Holznagel gave a report on the Technology Evaluation Report.

Seymour stated the NW Region Educational Laboratory was asked to help do an evaluation of the state of technology and it's integration in Idaho. He stated that Idaho is far ahead in its thinking and what it's implemented, compared to almost the entire country.

Gary stated he coordinated the development of the evaluation report. The goal of the report is to provide an introduction to the report, highlights and key findings and recommendations of the evaluation and context in which we can move forward in effective technology use.

The purpose of the evaluation was to evaluate the status of K-12 educational technology along four dimensions. The dimensions were identified in planning sessions last summer and these are:

- Infrastructure

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- Professional Development
- Intragation and Curriculum
- Standards and Assessment

The methods that were used to do the evaluation was a survey designed on paper as well as online and sent to 108 schools around the State of Idaho. The survey was followed up with phone calls to the superintendents, tech coordinators and regional professionals.

One thing that was discovered when doing the evaluation was that the State of Idaho has a higher level of consistent financial commitment and funding commitment and support over the last eight years than any of the five states in the region.

Idaho is a regional and national leader in the use of technology; both at the classroom level in assessments, helping teachers develop their skills and data management and curriculum management with ISIMS.

There are three major sections to the structure of the report. They are a findings and recommendations section, analytical summary section and data about key dimensions, plus five appendices, charts, tables and statistics with an item-by-item breakdown.

Gary stated the qualifications and skills of school/district tech staff varied widely. Sixty-five percent of the districts do not have a full-time coordinator. Technician staff time is taken up with maintaining old hardware and support of professional development findings.

Gary stated that when obtaining standards and assessments, ISTE based standards were used. Teaching sharing of successful practices is limited, observation is the primary methods by which respondents assess integration results, evaluating the effectiveness of integration still remains to be done in districts and statewide, particularly in literacy and math. Student data analysis is another important issue. Time spent on integration is quite lengthy for on-line testing. An integration example is ISTE creates standards, benchmarks and then writes in which technology is used not only what is taught, but how students are affected by it.

Gary stated some technical support recommendations were to establish standards or qualifications for schools and district tech coordinators in both technical and instructional areas. To establish technical support strategies or guidelines for districts too small to hire coordinators. Professional recommendations would be to provide adequate initial and ongoing training for

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ISAT and ISIMS. The integration recommendations were to provide support for more computers in schools for this to be used effectively.

Evaluation recommendations were to support research and evaluation efforts to track the impact and provide criteria for classroom observations that can be used to assess teacher integration skills.

In conclusion Gary stated the State of Idaho has a giant workforce that has never been trained in this research. The State needs to define questions on the use of technology. The testing is not on integration, but on student learning. There's a need to respond to individual needs. The State's task is to find out what needs to be done for the integration of teachers, students, etc. Integration is a step to effective student learning.

ICTL 2004 Budget

Senator Richardson explained the ICTL budget originally started at the 10.4 million amount but has dropped for the past two years to 8.4 million. Senator Richardson asked for comments on what this reduction has meant to schools.

Cory Simpson, West Side School District, said they are able to maintain the computer systems they have, but are unable to afford any changes.

Pete Black stated they went from a five-year computer replacement schedule, to an eight-year replacement schedule. Students were unable to correspond their schoolwork with homework because the computers were not compatible.

Dr. Howard stated they need to take a look at how many new schools have been built. Therefore, the budget will be spread thinner. The schools also need to make different decisions on the number and type of people they hire, including technology people. Dr. Howard also stated in the past years she has advocated for staff allocations to improve staffing and would also like to see more technicians for each district, but because of the State's situation on funding, will not be advocating these issues.

Kendall stated they were hoping to provide the State with a history of funding. There is a low percentage of ICTL funding for technology, which means local districts are paying for costs of technology improvements.

Jim Marconi stated they do not have enough money to improve technology standards.

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Nancy Szofran made a comment regarding the budget, stated the Board of Education has never put in a budget request for the Higher Ed ICTL subcommittee, but this year there will be budget requests.

Nancy Szofran, for Gary Stivers, stated Gary was going to comment on the Legislature sessions referring to technology and education in general and was introduce some of the higher education progress and technology projects that the Board is doing.

Senator Richardson asked for the State Department of Educations budget report from David Breithraup who deferred the report to Dr. Howard.

Dr. Howard stated the budget will remain at 8.4 million for the 2004 year, but hopes for better figures in the future.

Higher Education Information Technology Committee Report

Senator Richardson gave a short synopsis on the Higher Education Committee and what their goals and missions are. He state it was necessary to have two committees, one on Higher Ed and one on Public Ed, so the two committees could study in detail the various information and bring it to the ICTL committee.

Ann Joslin stated she and Nancy Szofran would be giving the report on Higher Education. Ann stated they would be basically working from their strategic plan in terms of its goals as the report is given.

Nancy Szofran explained the HEITC vision, which states that The State Board of Education envisions an accessible, seamless K-Life education system.

Nancy then reviewed the seven Goals supporting the vision.

- Ed.Net – an education network for economic development.
- Idaho Electronic Campus (IEC) – a website of the distance education courses offered by seven public postsecondary schools of Idaho
- Expanded Information Services – Library Collaboration
- Planning – referring to Ed.Net.
- Assessment and Evaluation – assesses the impact of the Legislative investment through the ICTL for technology in postsecondary education.
- Public Awareness – to promote a free and timely exchange of information and ideas.

Nancy commented on the September 2003 CAAP meeting and the work to be done would be a collaboration to develop a vision statement for the statewide education telecommunications network. This was a collaboration between Nancy

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Szofran and Mike Falconer, working with Randy Thompson and Patty Sanchez. The process would be to interview each chief academic officer over the telephone, with IT staff. They address four questions.

Nancy commented on the SHEEO/NCES conference and the survey/questionnaire that was put together and sent to the technology personnel for each state including Puerto Rico and the responses received were 76%.

Nancy commented on the IDANET Steering committee meeting, the IDANET vision and their Goals. Now looking for another alternative to IDANET, which does not meet the State's needs.

Nancy commented on the Idaho Electronic Campus and the responses there has been through Internet access. The country responses, times of day, amounts of people accessing and the success of the IEC.

Nancy commented on the Distance Education Courses, noting the increases in students using the program.

Academic Library

Ann Joslin started with a request from Boise State University to the State Board of Education to accept a grant award to develop a new integrated library system. Ann commented on a library system meeting to identify existing and potential collaboration library projects and to explore possible roles for HEITC to help implement them. This meeting derived mainly from the State Board of Education's motion from the May, 2003 meeting to actively plan for and collaboratively deliver a statewide system of library services to students, faculty and staff in Idaho.

Ann explained how the Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) came about and its functions.

Technology Incentive Grant

Nancy Szofran explained the functions of the National Student Clearinghouse. The purpose of the NSC is to serve as a central repository and single point of contact for the collection and timely exchange of accurate, comprehensive enrollment, degree and certificate records on behalf of participating institutions. Services provided at no cost are, core reporting, enrollment verification and degree verification. Enrollment searches do have a fee of .12 cents times the school's total fall headcount, for Idaho this would be \$6,801 for one year.

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Nancy explained the Higher Education Information System and its functions. HEIS features – comprehensive relational database, analytic capabilities, web based system, state of the art technology and architecture and cutting edge data extensions. The data areas included enrollment, faculty/staff, academic programs, finance, financial aid, facilities and capital planning. Nancy commented on each of the features of HEIS. Nancy state the State Board of Education would like to adopt this system that Ohio is interested in sharing the system with other states. The cost to Idaho would be 50 million to set up their own system; The Board is looking for additional funding of 1.2 million to purchase the system and 250 thousand for one year's maintenance.

Responsibilities of RTA's

Dean Christianson commented on the Regional Technology Advisors positions, explaining they were developed to provide technical assistance for districts and to provide professional development, assist with district and state technology plans and to provide information on technology and teaching. Dean Christianson recommended that the ICTL integrate the technology assistance districts may seek into to the developing models of support for districts as they implement federal and state requirements and initiatives and eliminate the identified role of Regional Technology Advisor.

Rich Mincer stated that he and Nancy Szofran had discussed the RTA's positions with the Deans. From the K-12 perspective they have greatly appreciated the colleges and universities working with K-12. The RTAs were a tremendous help, especially as they were starting out the ICTL. Rich stated that he did not concur with the Deans that RTAs have lived out their usefulness as earlier defined, but as defined in the early 90s have out-lived their usefulness. Rich felt it was time for the Deans to figure out how to best work with the ICTL and extending services to the K-12 environment. This could be a whole new organization. Rich also stated that they would need to have an even greater partnership between K-12 and the higher Ed institutions to make ISIMS successful.

Senator Richardson stated that the committee has two motions to vote from the Higher Education Technician Committee.

MOTION #2 – Ann Joslin moved that ICTL accept the recommendation of the Deans of Education and the recommendation is that the ICTL integrate the technology assistance district into other developing models of support for districts as the increment Federal and State requirements and initiatives and eliminate the identified role that is as it has been identified as a Regional Technology Advisor.

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Senator Richardson stated he would like to make a small addition to Ann's motion. Along with thanks to the universities and the RTAs for their wonderful service to Idaho and their work in technology.

Vern Newby seconded. Motion passed.

MOTION #3 – motioned to accept the Higher Education Information project. Ann Joslin seconded. Motion passed.

Nancy Szofran moved that a recommendation go before the State Board of Education to approve the 1.2 million funding for the Ohio System to be integrated. Dr. Howard amended the motion, ICTL will support the Higher Education proposal to plan for a student information system for Higher Education. Vern Newby seconded. Motion passed.

These motions will go before the State Board of Education.

8th Grade Idaho Student Information Technology Standards (ISITS)

Bill Leaf commented on the 8th Grade Idaho Student Information Technology Standards and K- Benchmarks. Presentations were made on 8th Grade Standards draft document.

Senator Richardson stated he was very impressed with the steps taken in the proposals.

Deb McGrath comments on teaching technology skills in a productive way by having a model plan. Five projects, ethical code for using technology, technical writing, Internet provider search, career newspaper and research on a specific project.

MOTION #4 - Ann Joslin motion to recommend the Idaho State Board of Education adopt the 8th Grade Standards. Dave Breithraup seconded. Motion passed.

Idaho Department of Education Statewide Technology Plan

Senator Richardson stated that this report has been made concise in its making

A presentation was given by Dawn Wilson and Cheryl Bishop on the direction technology is taking in the State of Idaho. They are initiating projects Phase I, continue Phase II and initiate Phase III.

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Dawn Wilson commented on the model of education is to ensure students have the knowledge and skills to be successful in life and the mission is to promote student achievement.

Discussion on the Lerner part on page 8 of the report. This is a performance measure that makes sure the schools make special need students pass all standards.

Motion #5 - Bill Leaf moved that the ICTL forward the State Technology Plan to the State Board of Education for approval. Ann Joslin seconded. Vern Newby motioned that the learner portion be omitted, Dave Breithraup seconded. Motion passed.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

Rich Mincer commented on the last item in the binder and stated that the Bureau of Technology has been invited to participate in nine different events relating to the 21st Century Skills. This is an organization formed in 2002 to create a successful model of learning that incorporates 21st century skills into our system of education.

Next ICTL Meeting and Adjournment

The next ICTL meeting is tentatively set for April 2004.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.